Application No. Not Yet Assigned Paper Dated: December 16, 2004 In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of N/A Attorney Docket No. 4174-045870

Amendments to the Abstract

Please replace the Abstract on page 17 with the following replacement Abstract:

Abstract of the Disclosure

A liquid-fuel feed fuel cell emprising disclosed with a unit cell that has a structure in which an anode and a cathode a negative electrode and a positive electrode are opposed with a polymer electrolyte having a proton conductivity interposed between them, a. A liquid fuel is supplied to the anode, negative electrode and air is supplied to the eathode, or the positive electrode. The liquid-fuel feed fuel cell emprising has a cell stack where unit cells are stacked. Additionally, an operation monitoring method for monitoring the operation, and an operation monitoring device are disclosed. The inventors has found out a degradation phenomenon of such a liquid fuel feed fuel cell in which the exhausted fuel on the anode side blackens and the cell performance irreversibly degrades if the output current is excessively increased, or if the supply of air or liquid fuel is insufficient. According to the invention, to To prevent such degradation phenomenon, the liquid-fuel feed fuel cell has at least one of the following functions: of increasing the supply of air or liquid fuel, issuing an alarm, decreasing the output current, and stopping the operation of the fuel cell when it is detected that the potential between the negative and eathodes-positive electrodes monitored for at least one cell is below a predetermined negative potential.